



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153**



Press Release

For Release Immediately

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**Federal Government Leases Land in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Pennsylvania
For Oil and Gas Exploration**

Forty-two parcels of Federal land brought in \$592,662 through a competitive auction of oil and gas leases conducted by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management-Eastern States (BLM-ES) on Thursday, December 15, 2005, in Springfield, Virginia. Bonus bids, filing fees, and rental revenue amounting to \$444,496 will go to the U.S. Treasury and \$148,165 will be shared with the affected States.

The BLM has responsibility for leasing the federally-owned minerals located in the 31 States east of and adjoining the Mississippi River and offers selected parcels at quarterly competitive auctions. Regulations require the bidding to open at \$2 per acre. Pennsylvania Gen Energy of Warren, Pennsylvania paid \$115,033 for a 101-acre parcel in Forest County, Pennsylvania. Their bid of \$1,125 per acre was the highest per-acre bid of the auction.

Leases are awarded for a term of 10 years and as long thereafter as there is production of oil and gas in paying quantities. The Federal Government receives a royalty of 12½ percent of the value of production. Also, each State Government receives a 25 percent minimum share of the bonus bid and the royalty revenue from each lease issued in that State.

The next competitive oil and gas lease sale is scheduled for March 23, 2006.

END

STATE REPORT
DECEMBER 15, 2005
COMPETITIVE OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE

State	# of Parcels Offered/Sold	Acreage Offered/Sold	Federal Revenue	State Revenue
AL	11/0	8,349.83 / 0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
AR	28/20	23,499.20 / 19,867.03	\$216,704	\$72,235
MS	22/21	11,619.47 / 11,139.47	\$141,518	\$47,173
PA	1/1	101.34 / 101.34	\$86,275	\$28,758
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	62/42	43,569.84 / 31,107.84	\$444,496	\$148,165